



City of Riverside Press Statement For Immediate Release July 8, 2003

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Second Largest Natural & Organic Food Supermarket Chain Comes to Riverside

Riverside, CA – July 3, 2003 – Wild Oats Markets, Inc. the nation's second largest natural and organic foods retailer will relocate its Southern California and Arizona refrigerated distribution facilities to Riverside. Wild Oats has signed a long-term agreement with Space Center to occupy approximately 241,000 square feet of a 437,000 square foot build-to-suit building at Space Center Sycamore Canyon in the Sycamore Canyon Business Park area of the city of Riverside. The plant will focus on the distribution for their expanding Southern California and Arizona markets allowing Wild Oats to significantly strengthen their presence on the West Coast. The company plans to employ 200 people at the new facility and should be operational in February 2004.

Essential to Wild Oats Markets' choice in moving its distribution center to Riverside was a business friendly environment, said John Baker, General Manager for Wild Oats Markets' Farmers Market stores. "The company had specific requirements including a central location with easy access to the West Coast and Southern markets. Low cost utilities, a central location that would allow us to conveniently accommodate our growth plans, and the exceptional quality of life offered in Riverside is what really swayed us."

The Company plans to add up to 55 new stores between 2003 and 2006, with Southern California being a priority market for expansion of the Henry's Marketplace chain. Wild Oats has recently signed leases for two new Henry's stores in Chino Hills and Corona, Calif. and continues to identify additional locations in the Riverside and San Bernardino areas for new stores as it expands this popular chain of farmers markets.

"Wild Oats' decision to locate in Riverside is a huge success for the city," stated Jerry Buydos, Interim Economic Development Manager for the city of Riverside. "They will be a fine addition to the growing list of quality firms locating in Sycamore Canyon."

Wild Oats will use approximately half of the building that has been built by Fullmer Construction. The other half is currently leased to Quebecor World, the self proclaimed world's largest printer. Because of the success of this facility, Space Center Inc. has plans to build another estimated 415,000 square foot building adjacent to the Wild Oats/Quebecor facility, according to Mike Thies, Sr. Vice President for Space Center Sycamore Canyon. Wild Oats was represented by Michael Jensen of Pacific Retail Partners and Jay Dick, First Vice President of CB Richard Ellis in Ontario.

Wild Oats Markets, Inc. is a nationwide chain of natural and organic foods markets in the U.S. and Canada. The Company currently operates 100 natural foods stores in 25 states and British Columbia, Canada. The Company's markets include: Wild Oats Natural Marketplace, Henry's Marketplace, Sun Harvest and Capers Community Markets. For more information, please visit the Company's website at www.wildoats.com.

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